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Shelbyville, IL 62565

January 22, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

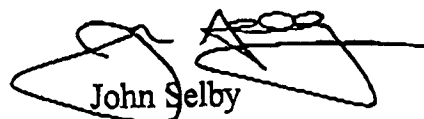
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I have never been one to agree with any type of monopolistic practices within on organization. This is why at the beginning of the case against Microsoft; I felt that the main complaints were justifiable. I however became quite dissatisfied with the turn that this lawsuit took.

I am thankful that the government realized that such a breakup would have drastic results for the IT industry, the economy and for consumers and redirected the lawsuit and eventually proposed a settlement. Though I find some of these terms of a bit harsh for Microsoft in that they are being asked to release its internal protocols, interfaces and intellectual properties, I am very pleased with Microsoft's willingness to comply. I think Microsoft's willingness has been slighted by the States wishing to continue litigation.

I am writing to give my complete support to Microsoft in this matter and hope that Microsoft's compliance to the terms of the settlement is duly noted. Putting this matter to rest will do the economy, the IT industry, Microsoft employees and software consumers a world of good. I appreciate your office's prompt decision to end litigation as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


John Selby